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SECTORAL POLICY QUESTIONS: FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Kheireddine Ramoul (Algeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.38

Food and sustainable agricultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/109 of 20 December 1995, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1996/36 of 26 July 1996 and 1995/1 of 10 February 1995,

Expressing deep concern at the widespread phenomenon of chronic undernourishment, particularly among women and children in the developing countries,

Also expressing concern that the scarcity of freshwater in developing countries, in arid and semi-arid regions, has hampered development efforts, especially agricultural development, which is necessary for food security,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger,

Recognizing the contributions made by the major United Nations conferences of the 1990s to an international consensus on food security and related issues,

Also recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/36 of 26 July 1996 on follow-up to the major international United Nations conferences

and summits, including the implementation of their respective programmes of action,

1. Welcomes the outcome of the World Food Summit held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996;

2. Urges all members of the international community, as well as relevant bodies within the United Nations system, including international and regional financial institutions, to cooperate actively in a coordinated manner in the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action adopted at the Summit;

3. Recommends that, at its special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, the General Assembly give due attention to the follow-up to the World Food Summit Plan of Action;

4. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that the Administrative Committee on Coordination decides on the inter-agency mechanism for the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the incorporation of the mechanism into existing arrangements, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997 in the context of Council resolution 1996/36;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that a coordinated follow-up at the field level to the World Food Summit will be undertaken in the context of the resident coordination system, taking into account the coordinated follow-up to United Nations major international conferences;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action, in the context of the follow-up to the major United Nations conferences of the 1990s, including the implementation of their respective programmes of action;

7. Reiterates its invitation to the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the outcome of the World Food Summit, including actions to be taken to follow-up the outcome of the Summit at all appropriate levels.